



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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23 MAY 1966

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1. South Vietnam

Antigovernment resistance in Da Nang has crumbled completely. The government intends to put "pressure" on Hué, but we know of no plans for a military assault on that city.

Ky apparently intends to be magnanimous in victory. Today he told Ambassador Lodge that he would give amnesty to those who had surrendered at the main Da Nang pagoda. He also said he was planning a Berlin-type airlift of food and medicines to the city.

Ky hopes to use the "peoples congress" scheduled for Saigon tomorrow--at which he says there will be representatives from Hué and Da Nang--to capitalize politically on his Da Nang victory. He plans to reiterate his desire to hold elections.

In Da Nang itself there was no noticeable gloating or rejoicing by government troops, who during the afternoon busily used leaflets, broadcasts, and handbills in an effort to win support from the population.

The Buddhists may try to keep the pot boiling, however. Today, Tri Quang, in a "heated, well-modulated shout," berated the US vice consul in Hué for what he termed US alliance with Thieu and Ky, and made veiled threats of "massive demonstrations" and "direct action" against the consulate. A two-hour anti-American demonstration outside the Buddhist Institute in Saigon today was broken up by Vietnamese paratroopers and marines.

2. Indonesia

Indonesian Foreign Minister Malik now plans to meet Malaysian Deputy Premier Razak in Bangkok at the end of the month. Malik says he hopes to have the confrontation issue finally buttoned up shortly thereafter.

Malik realizes, however, that Sukarno may not support the agreement which Malik hopes to reach with Razak. If this is the case, Malik will wait to table his plan until August when the Provisional Assembly is scheduled to meet.

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3. Mozambique

Rebel activity in northern Mozambique is inching upwards. Portuguese officials say that their forces last week defeated the largest single rebel push to date--some 1,500 guerrillas who had moved in from across the Tanzanian border.

The Portuguese added 3,500 additional troops to their 30,000-man force in Mozambique last week. Others will probably be needed.

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4. Uganda

Disturbances have broken out between Obote's central forces and supporters of one of Uganda's leading regional leaders. The basic issue is Obote's high-handed methods and his bloodless coup of last February.

During the weekend, firing was reported on the outskirts of Kampala, and government roadblocks have been set up since that time. Both sides seem ready and able to continue the fight.

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5. Dominican Republic

The political temperature is becoming dangerously hot as the Dominican election campaign goes into its final week. There have already been sporadic incidents of violence recently, and the charges and countercharges of fraud, corruption, and intimidation are growing more numerous with each passing day. In this situation, the chances for serious disturbances before 1 June are very real.

6. Bolivia

The military junta is still determined to hold elections on 3 July. The recent efforts by opposition parties to get a 90-day delay have been summarily rejected.

This turn of events considerably improves the chances for a peaceful resolution of Bolivia's political crisis, although there is still ample time for the situation to fall apart.

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